Descriptive Finding Guide for the Frank W. Seifert Personal Papers
SDASM.SC.10130

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San Diego Air and Space Museum Library and Archives
11/13/2014
2001 Pan American Plaza, Balboa Park
San Diego 92101
URL: http://www.sandiegoairandspace.org/
Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: San Diego Air and Space Museum Library and Archives
Title: Frank W. Seifert Personal Papers
source: Seifert, Frank W.
Identifier/Call Number: SDASM.SC.10130
Physical Description: 0.43 Cubic FeetOne Box
Date (inclusive): 1896-1977
Abstract: Col. Frank Walter Seifert, (September 29, 1896 – December 1, 1977) was an aviation pioneer and a veteran of World War II. He was on the team which performed the first aerial refueling.

Conditions Governing Access
The collection is open to researchers by appointment.

Conditions Governing Use
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Immediate Source of Acquisition
The materials in this Collection were donated to the San Diego Air and Space Museum.

Preferred Citation
[Item], [Filing Unit], [Series Title], [Subgroups], [Record Group Title and Number], [Repository “San Diego Air & Space Museum Library & Archives”]

Biographical / Historical
Col. Frank Walter Seifert, (September 29, 1896 – December 1, 1977) was an aviation pioneer and a veteran of World War II. He became an aviation cadet in the Army Signal Corps and received his second lieutenant’s commission in 1918. He then became a flying instructor at various military airfields in the United States. At Rockwell Field (now North Island NAS) he was a member of the team that performed the first aerial refueling in history, and for that he was later inducted into the Air Force Hall of Fame.

In the 1925 he was elected to the San Diego City Counsel, and spearheaded the development and building of what is now Lindbergh Field. When Lindbergh Field opened in 1928, Seifert was the first person to land at the field carrying the Mayor as the first passenger.

After serving in private industry during the 1930’s, Seifert was recalled to active military duty in 1942, where he was assigned with the 20th Air Force in the Pacific and was named Commander of the Northwest Air Base in Guam.

After WWII, Col. Seifert returned to San Diego where he held various civic positions, including being City Manager of National City, heading the bond drive to expand Lindbergh Field, and was foreman of the San Diego County grand jury in 1963.

Scope and Contents
This collection spans the entire professional life of Col. Seifert, from his early days in 1918 as a cadet in the then Signal Corps, though his historic aviation achievements in the 1920’s to his civil life and death in San Diego in 1977. A significant item in this collection is his 1918 Aviator’s Certificate issued by the Federation Aeronautique Internationale. The collection also includes many original awards and certificates, including his induction into the Air Force Hall of Fame.

Related Materials
Related SDASM Resources:
Secondary Sources: Maurer, Maurer, Aviation in the US Army 1919-1939, United States Air Force Historical Research Center, Washington, D.C., 1987
SDASM Bio-File- Seifert, Frank W. (If there are photos in this file, they might have to be incorporated)
SDASM Film – F-0482 – The Air Force Story: Struggle for Recognition 1923-1930
Related Research Institutions: Airlift Tanker Association: http://www.atalink.org/HallOfFame/Members/AR_Pioneers.aspx
https://www.flickr.com/photos/sdasmarchives/sets/72157634218198154/

Subjects and Indexing Terms
San Diego International Airport
Rockwell Field
Aerial Refueling
Folder 01  
**Folder 01 - Awards, Correspondences and Certificates 1918 - 1929**


Folder 02 - World War II - 1949 - Awards, Correspondences and Certificates


Folder 03 - Post World War II - Awards, Correspondences and Certificates


Folder 04 - Photos 1918 - 1929

Physical Description: 11 Military and personal photos – possible group photo of 1923 aerial refueling group at Rockwell Field (NAS North Island).

Folder 05 - Photos

Physical Description: 37 World War II Military and personal photos from the Pacific Theater.

Folder 06 - Photos

Physical Description: 32 World War II Military and personal photos from the Pacific Theater - Part II.

Folder 07 - Photos

Physical Description: 9 Post World War II photos – mostly of civic life – group photo with T. Claude Ryan.

Folder 08 - Newspaper Clippings -1918-1929.

Folder 09 - Newspaper Clippings - World War II - 1949.

Folder 10 - Newspaper Clippings - Post World War II - Civic Life.